



# Southeast News

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

VOLUME 19

MAY 1971

NUMBER 7

## Southeast Conference To Meet

The Southeast Conference will meet at Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., June 12 and 13, 1971. Speakers for the Annual Conference will be: Mr. Hal Miller, representing the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ; Miss Hedwig Schaeffer, a retired missionary who has served many years in India; Mr. Lewis I. Maddocks, of the Council for Christian Social Action; and Rev. James Hargett of the Council for Church and Ministry. Rev. Henry Tuttle, the new minister of Huntsville Church, will be Chaplain. At the banquet, the speaker will be Mrs. Nelson Fusan, of Nashville, who was a delegate to the peace talks in Paris, France.

The Program Committee suggests that all items of business should be channeled through the Board of Directors, and that all resolutions and recommendations from committees and commissions should be channeled through the Resolutions Committee. All resolutions should reach the Conference office by May 15. If this is done, the resolutions can be sent to the churches ahead of time.

In a recent mailing, ministers and church clerks were sent the recommendation of the Board of Directors regarding the telescoping of the eight commissions into three: *Outreach, Church and Ministry, and Education*. It is hoped that each church will take time to discuss this matter with the

delegates so they will have direction for voting at the Annual Meeting.

The Board of Directors also has suggested that the term of office for the Officers of the Southeast Conference be for *two years* instead of one year. The By-Laws would be changed so that the three Commissions would be composed of a Coordinator and an Assistant Coordinator, elected by the Conference, plus the Chairman of the corresponding committees of the Association. Commissions may co-opt other members at their discretion. The Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator would also serve for two years.

If anyone has a nomination for any office, Commission or Committee of the Conference, that person should contact the Rev. Allen B. Hollis, Jr., 2301 - 65th St., Langdale, Ala. 36864. Mr. Hollis is Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Each minister (licensed and ordained) is a member of the Conference, if that minister holds standing in an Association of the Conference or in the Conference itself.

Each church is entitled to three delegates. Those having membership of more than 100 members are entitled to one additional voting delegate for each additional 100 members or major fraction thereof.

—W. J. Andes



## New Directions Set For UCBHM

Seldom before has there been so much urgency to act. As Dr. Howard E. Spragg, Executive Vice President of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, recently said, "Now is the time to decide between peace and war, between interracial harmony or fratricide, between ecological sanity or disaster, between personal and social fulfillment or degradation."

The Board and its staff are currently moving through interdivisional priority teams in three main areas: peace, welfare and racial justice.

Dr. Edward A. Powers chairs the Peace Priority Team, which is especially concerned with developing alternatives to present items in the Federal budget which will reflect a shift in our national priorities. The team intends to work with groups such as the Urban Coalition, the Boston Industrial Mission, and the New Priorities Movement which are seeking ways to convert our nation's industrial power from a war-time to a peace-time economy.

The Welfare Priority Team is chaired by Dr. Hobart A. Burch. Already working closely with the national staff of the National Welfare Rights Organization in examining Family Assistance proposals and

## Committee, Commission Chairmen Are Urged To Prepare Reports

Chairmen of all standing committees and the Commissions of the Southeast Conference are urged to prepare their reports early so they may be included in the June issue of *Southeast News*, and so they may be compiled for the Directory.

In a recent letter to such chairmen, Dr. William J. Andes sends a reminder that these reports contain two sections: 1. information requiring no action by the Conference, and 2. Resolutions and Recommendations which will require discussion and action by the Conference.

## By Popular Request

Miss Hedwig Schaeffer, for more than forty years a missionary in India, will return to the Southeast Conference June 5-20, 1971. She will be one of the speakers at the Annual Meeting in Nashville June 12 and 13, and will be available to local churches both before and after those dates.

Miss Schaeffer spoke in several of our churches from February 17 to March 4, and now returns to the Conference by popular request.

Churches desiring to have Miss Schaeffer should contact Rev. Donald B. Orander, 700 Bresslyn Road, Nashville, Tenn. 37205.

these reports contain two sections: 1. Information office by May 8.

(Continued on page 6)



... a column of reminders to help you with your planning.

APRIL 30 - MAY 2, SEC YOUTH officers meet in Chattanooga, Tenn.

MAY 7, May Fellowship Day.

MAY 8, Georgia - South Carolina Christian Education Committee, Savannah, Ga.

MAY 9, Festival of the Christian home.

MAY 10, 11 and 12, Ministers' Convocation, Callaway Gardens.

MAY 15, North Alabama - Tennessee Christian Education Committee, Huntsville, Ala.

JUNE 5, Alabama Women's and Men's Retreat, Wadley, Ala.

JUNE 11, SEC Board of Directors, Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.

JUNE 12 and 13, SEC Annual Meeting, Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn.

JUNE 20 - 25, Leadership School of Mid South, Maryville, Tenn.

JUNE 25 - 29, Eighth General Synod, Grand Rapids, Mich.

JULY 10 and 11, SEC Officers and Commissions, Wadley, Ala.

JULY 5 - 17, Appalachian Regional School for Church Leaders, Morgantown, West Virginia.

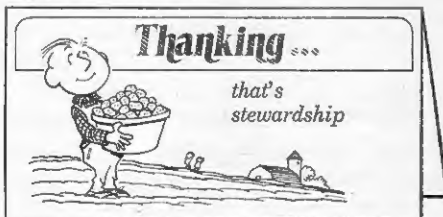
JULY 25 - 31, Boggs Academy Leadership School, Keysville, Georgia.

AUGUST 8 - 14, Junior and Junior High Camp, Roosevelt State Park.

## HIKE VS. HUNGER

Young people and adults participating in a 10-mile Hunger Hike for CROP (Christian Rural Overseas Program) in Stony Hill, Mo., rang up \$3,825 for the Church World Service food appeal. Sponsored by the Hermann Area Youth Cabinet of the UCC, the event attracted 140 hikers from 11 communities. Each hiker had pledges from sponsors who agreed to give an amount to CROP for each mile the hiker finished.

If you want to plan a Hunger Hike, write A. Gayle Engel, Box 510, Washington, Mo. 63090.



## Mid-South Synod School 71

An outstanding opportunity for pastors and other church leaders to sharpen skills and deepen commitment is Mid-South Synod School 71, June 20 - 25, at Maryville College, Maryville, Tennessee. Focus of the school will be "Christians in a Pagan Society." Featured Convocation Speaker is Dr. John R. Bodo, Minister of Old First Presbyterian Church, San Francisco, Cal., who will base the Convocation on studies in First and Second Corinthians. Morning seminars include: "Work and Leisure in the Christian Community," "Ecology: Caretakers of Creation," "Mission and Witness in Today's World," "Who Am I? The Question of Identity Within Community," and Instroteach Workshop.

Afternoon Workshops will be conducted on Audi-Visuals, Creative Activities, Programming for Women's Work, and Experience in Using Inquiry Procedures.

A Senior High "Mini Conference" will also be held. In the morning, senior highs will follow the regular Synod School schedule. Afternoons and evenings will be devoted to recreational activities, field trips, and special interest groups.

Rap sessions will be featured in the evening.

A flyer with full information and registration forms is available at the Southeast Conference office. We cooperate in planning and in staffing this event. Several of our people will want to attend.

## Appalachian School For Church Leaders

The annual *Appalachian Regional School* for Church Leaders will be held July 5 - 17 at West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia, offering an educational program for leadership development in church and community.

Designed for a period of six weeks spread over a span of three years (three two-week sessions), the Curriculum consists of core courses and many electives, including communications, group process, church and the law, Appalachian culture, the pastor and money management, a rapid-reading clinic—all taught by visiting lecturers from WVU and other organizations.

The school, structured for parish ministers and their wives, church executives, program staffs, and lay leaders, is set up so that afternoons are free. Thus there

## BOGGS ACADEMY LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

"Together in Ministry" is the theme of the 1971 Leadership School to be held at Boggs Academy, Keysville, Georgia, July 25 - 31.

In a preliminary flyer announcing the school, leaders express their concern: "The ministry of the Christian Church today requires that people pray, think and act together, clergy and laymen together, all ages together, black and white together, denominations together."

The purpose of the 1971 Leadership School at Boggs Academy is to "interpret and help persons recognize their responsibility as reconcilers. We have been given a 'Ministry of reconciliation.' This ministry is an imperative Commission given to us by our Lord."

Over-all objectives are:

—To set up opportunities for teachers, leaders, and pastors; to develop major educational skills needed for planning, communication and Leadership Development.

—To offer courses for growth and personal renewal needed for responsible participation in the community of faith.

—To provide resources and counsel that will enable churches to move into more creative styles of programming.

TOTAL COST—\$36.00.

Flyers with details in courses and registration will be available soon from the Southeast Conference office. Write for your copy and plan for someone from your church to attend. Our U.C.C. churches are involved in this one, too — both in planning and staffing!

is opportunity for individual study, special classes, informal visiting and discussion, denominational and interdenominational group meetings, field trips, recreation, and rest and relaxation.

For more information contact Mr. John Rodgers, Program Director, Appalachian Regional School for Church Leaders, 1128 Agricultural Science Building, Morgantown, West Virginia 26506.

"There were Indians in front of us, Indians behind us, Indians on both sides of us!" related the preacher's son to his excited friend. "Wow!" exclaimed his equally young friend whose vacation had provided no such experience. "What did you do then?" "What could we do?" answered the p.k. "We bought a blanket."

—Clergy Journal

## Our Sympathy

To the family and friends of *Miss Helen Huntington Smith* who died February 27 in Cleveland, Ohio, after an extended illness. A former missionary in China, Miss Smith was the first Executive Secretary of the U.C.C. Council for Lay Life and Work, which position she left for retirement in 1967.

\* \* \* \*

To Misses Lyodia and Yubenia Prigmore of Sweetwater, Tenn., and Dr. Ruby Terry of Nashville, Tenn., in the passing of their mother, *Mrs. Olivia Prigmore*, April 7 Services were held at First United Church of Christ, Sweetwater, on Saturday, April 10.

\* \* \* \*

To the family of *Mr. Drew Perkins*, Chattanooga, upon his death April 4, while enroute to Chicago. At the time of his passing he was Moderator of Pilgrim Church and teacher of the Adult Bible Class. His pastor writes of him, "Few men in the recent history of Pilgrim have expended more time, thought, interest in the affairs of the church."

## Forty-Two Churches Plus

*Forty-two churches* of the Southeast Conference increased their giving to basic support of Our Christian World Mission in 1970 over 1969.

*Forty-two churches*, aware of pressures and difficulties facing them, felt the urgency to continue and expand our Christian witness in the world.

*Forty-two churches*, concerned about their fair share of undergirding the work of Christ around the world, increased their share and carried a heavier load.

*Forty-two churches plus thirty-six other churches* in our Conference gave \$4,000 more to O.C.W.M. (Our Christian World Mission) in 1970 than they did in 1969. For these gifts, the Southeast Conference and the national instrumentalities are truly grateful.

*What about the other forty-six churches who gave nothing?* Are they still alive? Can they be a Church and not give to someone or something outside of themselves?

Thanks be to God for the 42 plus 36 churches! But, O God, what about the other 46?

—W. J. Andes



Left to right: Mrs. Harry Barr, Mrs. Christina Hilyer, Mrs. W. Walter Hall.

## Alabama Women's Retreat Being Planned For June 5

When a Women's Fellowship gathering includes men, that's news! Plans are well under way for the Alabama Women's Retreat to be held Saturday, June 5, at Southern Union State Junior College, Wadley, Alabama.

The 1971 event will be a full, one-day affair, beginning with registration at 9 A. M. (Central Daylight Saving Time), and closing at 7:30 P. M. Those who live nearby can be home at night. For those living farther away, overnight accommodations can be had in the air-conditioned dormitory for \$3.00 per person, including linens. Those desiring such an arrangement should make this known when they register.

At the planning session held April 6 at Lanett, great enthusiasm was expressed for the new approach to this event. There will be fellowship singing, worship, attention given to special education and to Emmaus Homes who care for the retarded, program resources for men's and women's groups, Bible study, a look at the missions resources, and plenty of food. The evening meal will be a picnic supper; vespers and installation of officers will conclude the day.

Watch for details on registration which will come soon in the mail. Meanwhile, set aside Saturday, June 5, for a great day at Southern Union!

## Recommended . . .

"1,2,3,4,5," . . . the new Guide for the Christian Enlistment speaks the layman's language, and offers practical materials and working papers for a five-phase program in the local church.

One free copy may be had for the asking, with additional copies at \$2.00 each. Order from the Stewardship Council, 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102.

## The Local Church In God's Plan

Forty-five people, representing 6 churches in the South Alabama-Northwest Florida Association, gathered at First Church, Andalusia, on April 3 to discuss the theme: "The Local Church in God's Plan." Leading the discussion and program for the day were Rev. W. A. Blankenhorn and J. K. Murphy of the Oak Grove Church, Pine Mountain, Ga. Mr. Blankenhorn is chairman of the OCWM Commission and Mr. Murphy is chairman of the Christian Education Commission of the Conference.

Bible Study, film strips, questionnaires, role playing depicted the theme. Then came the question: "What do you plan to do now in your church?"

## East Alabama Women Plan For Others

Ninety-seven persons representing fifteen churches attended the Spring Rally of the East Alabama Women's Fellowship at Oak Grove Church, Sunday, March 21. Mrs. Ibera Bass presided.

Lanett Church women conducted the opening worship service on the theme "Love Is." A women's quartet sang "Jesus Is All the World to Me."

Mrs. Lois Harry and Mrs. Beth Washburn gave an informative talk and demonstration of things that could be made or accumulated for others, such as hospital gowns, kindergarten bags, knitted bandages, rolled bandages, children's clothing, church school supplies, and good used clothing.

First Church, Columbus, women led the closing worship. Refreshments were served by the host church.

The Fall Rally will be held September 26 at the Lanett Church.

## THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

Second-Class Postage Paid at  
Atlanta, Georgia 30329

Published monthly by and for  
the churches of the

**SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE**  
The United Church of Christ

P. O. Box 29883  
Atlanta, Ga. 30329 633-5655

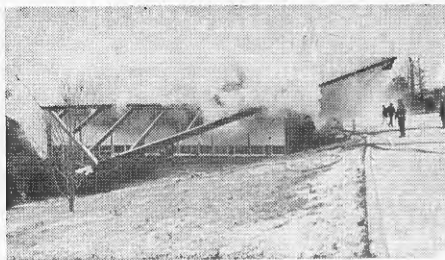
Subscription Rate \$1.00 Per Year

Printed by The Roanoke Leader  
Roanoke, Alabama

Vol. 19 May 1971 No. 7



# NEWS OF CHURCHES OF THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE



## Crossville Church Suffers Extensive Fire Damage

Sometime ago the *Southeast News* reported that the Crossville, Tenn., Church had been severely damaged by fire. At that time we had neither details nor a picture. We now attempt to fill our readers in on some details of the disaster.

On Sunday morning, January 31, when Rev. William Winterbottom, pastor, turned up the heat, he heard an unusual noise coming from the unit, apparently in the fan. He called a repairman who arrived about the same time as the Crossville Volunteer Fire Department. They had answered a call placed by a nearby neighbor.

According to Fire Chief Jim Brandon, the nature of the fire indicated that it began from the gas fume and was gas-fed, rather than electrical in origin. It enveloped the church within minutes. Pastor Winterbottom praised efforts of the firemen "for their outstanding help . . . Chief Jim Brandon and the volunteers worked in extreme cold to save our building."

The 40-by-60-foot structure, housing the oldest congregation in Crossville, was built in 1960-61 under a \$60,000 contract. Most of the classrooms and the kitchen were on the lower level of the hillside structure. The sanctuary, seating 140 people, more classrooms and an office were on the upper floor. It is estimated that to replace the structure today would cost three or four times the original cost, not to mention the loss in equipment and furnishings.

While insurance investigations are being continued, the Crossville congregation is meeting at the Seventh Adventist Church on Bilbrey Street.

## Maundy Thursday Services Held

What better time to gather in fellowship among Christians than during Holy Week!

With this in mind, leaders of *Howard*, *First* and *Brookmeade* churches in Nashville, Tenn., planned a family carry-in supper, followed by a Maundy Thursday Service.

About 110 adults and children ate together at First Church, Granny White Pike and Noelton Lane.

At the 8 P. M. Communion Service approximately 125 people participated. Mr. Lamont Arrington, organist at Howard Church, opened the service with Passion music of Afro-American background. The pastors of all three congregations provided leadership, several appropriate solos were sung, and the Chancel Choir Anthem was "Let Us Break Bread Together." One of the pastors, in writing to the *Southeast News* of the event, commented, "Later response from members very good."

The Maundy Thursday Communion Service, using the office of *Tenebrae*, was held April 8, 1971, at the First Church, Columbus. Ministers and people of the four churches participated. After the Lord's Supper, the service proceeded with the reading of scripture indicating the flight of the disciples leaving Jesus alone to face arrest, trial and crucifixion. After each scripture is read, a candle is extinguished and the service ends in darkness.

The Metro Council, composed of representatives of the four churches, is planning a Visitation Evangelism week April 19-25 under the leadership of Rev. Melvin Dollar of the Florida Conference.

## First Church, Savannah

The Sunday School of *First Church, Savannah*, is sponsoring a fund-raising project which will enable them to purchase a bus. This bus, far from being a luxury-item, is to be used to transport children to and from Sunday School, and for activities related to promoting the program.

On March 5, 1971, a Friendship Banquet was given at the First Federal Penthouse where the guest speaker was John H. Sengstacke, editor and publisher of *The Chicago Defender*, and associated papers. The affair proved to be both enjoyable and profitable for the bus fund.

—Mrs. M. V. Hannar



## Todd Church, Shawmut

Several weeks ago, the people of *Todd Church, Shawmut, Ala.*, were asked to give \$1,000 on Sunday, March 21, 1971: \$500 for the Lowell Church in Roanoke, Ala., where the mill has been closed for some months; \$280 for One Great Hour of Sharing to meet desperate needs of mankind across the world; and \$220 for the regular local church budget. The people not only met this challenge, but exceeded by \$37. Total given: \$1,037.

Pastor Bill Hodnett, pictured above, expressed thanks for this offering, saying, "In this way we can continue to praise the name of our Lord for His many wonderful works."

The special offering on March 21 did not disturb the normal giving of the congregation, since the average offering per Sunday is approximately \$280. Above and beyond the giving is the ascription of praise to God for His grace, mercy and peace.

## Want To Buy A Parsonage?

*Huntsville Church* people have been renovating the former parsonage on Todd Mill Road in order "to improve the market potential." The entire kitchen, dining room and living room walls, doors and woodwork were painted recently. In addition, some gold carpeting was purchased at bargain prices to cover the worn floors of the major rooms.

Teachers who have requested improvements to classrooms are assured that their needs will be met just as soon as the old parsonage sale is settled.

Helping...



that's stewardship

## Brookmeade Offers Interpersonal Course

In an effort to build its capacity for deeper and more meaningful relationships, Brookmeade Church, Nashville, Tenn., offered an Interpersonal Relations Course of six sessions under the leadership of Dr. Gus K. Bell, a clinical psychologist and member of Brookmeade. Thanks go to the Women's Guild for sponsoring the program.

Although learning was through group interaction and discussion of feelings, an effective structure to these "leaderless groups" was provided by materials published by the Human Development Institute, Inc., 20 Executive Park West, Atlanta, Ga.

A written evaluation by participants at the end of the course revealed that all had become more aware of their own feelings as well as those of others. One member reported that it had helped her work out a personal problem, although solving specific problems was not the intent of the course. Most significant was the challenge felt by all to carry these group-experienced skills into other relationships for more enriched lives.

## St. John's, Cullman, Receives New Members

On Palm Sunday, April 4, seven new members from the 1971 Confirmation Class were received into membership at St. John's Church, Cullman, Ala. These included: Cathie Leigh Aldridge, Benita Elaine Martin, Margaret Elizabeth Mayhall, Robert David Mayhall, Janet Kim Rauch, Michael Kent Rauch, Cynthia Gay Richter, and Jonathan Ernest Schafer.

## Life Of Christ Series

For churches who have an evening service which they would like to make more meaningful and instructive, why not get in touch with Rev. Joe French, Pastor of United Church, LaGrange, Georgia.

From February 23 through May 23, the 7 P. M. Sunday services continue the A. M. topic with a Visual Aid and discussion of a particular portion of the life of Christ.

So that members of the congregation who do not have a textbook may participate, the Pastor has prepared appropriate Scripture readings for each day of the week. Frequently he writes on the back of the Sunday bulletin on interpretation of the picture on the front page.



Top, left to right: Mrs. Jack Staglen, Mrs. Bobby Oliver, Mrs. O. D. Sorrell, and Mrs. Arthur Dailey. Bottom: Mrs. W. Walter Hall and Rev. Joe French. In background, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Fowler.

## Dedication Day At Lanett Church

On Easter Sunday afternoon, April 11, the Service of Dedication was held for the recently rebuilt Lanett Church. Pastor W. Walter Hall presided.

"Building God's House: Wicked or Wonderful" was the title of the sermon, preached by Dr. William J. Andes. He stressed the importance of motivation: whether this will be a place where people gather merely to enjoy one another's company or whether from it they will reach out to the world in behalf of Jesus Christ.

Mr. Terrell E. Bishop, Building Committee Chairman, presented the structure to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mr. O. D. Sorrell. The Pastor charged the Trustees and Deacons to hold "this property in trust for God and the Church of Jesus Christ." Both Boards joined in a covenant of responsibility to discharge their duties so that the church may "fulfill its mission in this community for all the purposes for which it is now being set apart."

Following the Act of Dedication by Pas-

## New Look At Russell Woods

Russell Woods Church, Phenix City, Ala., has a "new look" these days! The most noticeable change is the added enthusiasm of the members themselves. Most of the credit goes to their new Lay Speaker, Milton L. Lenoir, who was called by the church for an indefinite period. Mr. Lenoir, an active Gideon, can serve only as a Lay Speaker, but we have already felt his spiritual influence.

The Sunday School has been reorganized, a visitation program has been activated, and the church recently purchased a new piano.

On Saturday, March 13, the Happy Five and the Lloyd Quartet sang at the church, donating an offering to the church. This was added to the fund for song books, which have since been ordered. Four new members have been received during March.

Upon returning from the meeting of the East Alabama - West Georgia Women's Fellowship at Oak Grove Church, a group of seven ladies determined to start working for the Club award for next year.

The men are taking on a renewed leadership responsibility with different ones leading the Sunday morning worship service for a month. Harry Barr, Moderator, appointed a different man for each month not only to lead the service but also to be responsible for assisting the Lay Speaker, coordinating the church's program, and supervising all phases of the church's work. Ed Riddle began his duties during March; his influence has already been felt in his renewed dedication to his work and his encouragement to others that they can do likewise.

The congregation has enjoyed the part it has played in entertaining the Metro-Council of the four churches in the area. We are trying to furnish some leadership help for the Council which, in turn, also helps the church. New plans are in progress for added services of worship as well as for community efforts.

We welcome Mr. Lenoir, his wife Donna, and their children who are also active. We are expecting big things.

"Show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works."

—Mrs. Harry Barr

tor and people and the Benediction by Mrs. W. Walter Hall, a reception with refreshments was held in Fellowship Hall.

Mrs. Carl H. Henry  
4987 Long Island Dr. NW  
Atlanta, Ga. 30327

Second Class Postage Paid  
at Atlanta, Georgia

## Pollution A Target Of Pilgrim, Chattanooga

In a recent copy of *Newsletter*, the Social Action Chairman of Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, Tenn., announced plans to participate in a pollution clean-up:

1. Consumer power and marketing control through pressure on grocers to establish a section in their store of low pollution products.
2. Publicity in the local newspaper; minutes of each pollution control meeting and any projects dealing with the problem.
3. Organize pick-up service on Sunday to each church contributing bottles, cans, and papers.
4. Working for a "pollution Sunday" program sometime after Easter.
5. Offer support to the air pollution control board for their endeavors.
6. Announcing pollution problems to PTA groups.

## Stamps For Elon Children's Home

In its periodical, *Our Children*, Elon Home for Children makes an appeal for trading stamps and coupons:

"Don't forget us, please!

"In January we asked our readers to help us replace our worn out pickup by sending us trading stamps. The response has been most gratifying . . . , but it takes a . . . lot of stamps to add up to a motor vehicle.

"Nevertheless, we feel optimistic. Whatever you have, we can use — Gold Bond, King Korn, Plaid, Triple S, United, Gold Bond Donation Certificates, and Red Scissors Coupons.

"As we said in January, we are not choosy. Any stamps or coupons we can use . . . to help the Home and its children."

Send stamps or coupons to Elon Home for Children, Elon College, North Carolina 27244.

### Overheard In The SEC Office

The turtle makes progress only when he sticks his neck out. Have you stuck your neck out lately?



## "Maybe You're A Bigger Liar!"

United Church Board for World Ministries missionary Paul Walther had been telling a small group of skeptical farmers on the island of Leyte how they could increase their rice production to more than 120 bushels per acre. One old man squinted in the bright sun, chewed on a piece of grass, and said, "The last 'expert' the government sent out told us we could increase the yield to eighty bushels if we'd just follow his directions. But it didn't work. It occurs to me that maybe you're just a bigger liar than he was!"

But Walther was different. He didn't just tell the farmers what to do. First he found a farmer willing to use a bit of land, and then he raised rice himself. Thus, he showed them it could be done; then he showed them how. And the results were different, too. Rice production in the area went up and people who had once lived hand-to-mouth began to turn the corner on poverty.

## Culpeppers Serving New Hope Church

After an absence of several years, Rev. and Mrs. Otto Culpepper are back at the New Hope Church, Cljo, Alabama. The personage is furnished and the Culpeppers moved only a few of their clothes. They had retired, but will serve as their strength allows. They moved April 1 and found the New Hope people most hospitable.

## NEW DIRECTIONS SET

(Continued from page 1)

alternatives, the team is seeking to help local churches through the conferences to set up local consultations on the welfare issue. Another of the team's recent efforts has been to engage college and university students in a program to secure a more humane standard of living for all Americans.

Dr. Hollis F. Price leads the Racial Justice Priority Team. In addition to assisting the organization of the working poor, the team is giving attention to efforts in educational reform.

These three priority teams of the UCBHM, working closely with other national instrumentalities of the U.C.C. and with the conferences and local churches, are giving a new dimension to the work of our denomination on the homeland scene.

## COCU Forms New Structures Commission

Unique new commission of the Consultation on Church Union went into operation, charged with finding out how a future united church could obtain a maximum mission with a minimum of bureaucracy.

Headed by the Rev. Isaiah Scipio, Jr., of Detroit, Mich., the Commission on Structures for Mission probably will report preliminary findings in the fall of 1972.

Dr. Paul A. Crow, Jr., general secretary of COCU, explained that the commission's task was to be creative and to search for "new styles in the church's structural life." Furthermore, the ten-member commission's assignment includes analyzing present church structures and identifying steps and actions in structure which would make the proposed Church of Christ Uniting "possible and credible."

Representative of the United Church of Christ on the Commission is Rev. Mineo Katagiri, Director of the U.C.C. Council on Mission Priorities.

## Jest For The Joy Of It

"Are you a Jehovah's Witness?" asked the visitor at the door. "Nope," answered the resident. "I didn't even see the accident."

—Clergy Journal